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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/935,005	08/21/2001	Frank R. Cichocki	25079A	9107
22889	7590	11/06/2003	EXAMINER	
OWENS CORNING			DIXON, MERRICK L	
2790 COLUMBUS ROAD			ART UNIT	
GRANVILLE, OH 43023			PAPER NUMBER	

1774

DATE MAILED: 11/06/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/935,005

Applicant(s)

CICHOCKI ET AL.

Examiner

Merrick Dixon

Art Unit

1774

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

Art Unit: 1774

15

Applicants' election of claims 1-9, on July 29, 03, is acknowledged. Said election was made with examiner Tentoni, art unit 1732. No traversal was offered.

16

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

17

Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Woodside(5972503) in view of Koleske et al(3770564).

The primary reference to Woodside teaches the basic claimed invention including a moldable pellet product comprising an inner fiber material and thermoplastic polymer sheath surrounding said inner material- 7, lines 28-50; col 8, lines 3-16; col 25, lines 9-35; col 27, lines 38-49; col 31, lines 65- col 32, line 50; see entire reference. The reference fails to teach the aspect of employing cellulosic inner material. The secondary reference, however, teaches that it is known in the art to utilize cellulosic material in pellet-like material as taught by the primary reference- col 2, lines 16-35; see entire reference. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention is made to combine the teachings of the secondary reference to Koleske et al and provide such well known material such as cellulosic material, in the pellet product of the primary reference, in the absence of unexpected results and to impart desired characteristics on the pellets. Concerning claims 4 and 5, the secondary reference teaches the claimed limitations in col 2, lines 23-40; entire reference. concerning claims 1,2 and 3, the cited primary reference teaches the claimed limitations in col 34, lines 24-34. concerning claim 6, the cited primary reference teaches the claimed limitations in col 12, lines 27-39; col 5, lines 62- col 6, line 14.

Art Unit: 1774

Concerning claim 7, the cited primary reference teaches the claimed limitations in col 29, lines 31-46; col 34, lines 65-67. Concerning claims 8 and 9, the cited reference teaches the claimed limitations in col 11, lines 55-64; col 37, lines 12- 24.

18

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

D'Alessio et al(6595940), Woodside(6533882) and Woodside(6099910) are cited of interest for their teachings as set forth and additionally to show the state of the art.

19

Crystal Plaza Three Fax Center

A facsimile center has been established in Crystal Plaza 3. The hours of operations are Mondays through Friday, 8:45 to 4:45 PM. This new location should be used in all instances when faxing any correspondence to Group 1700. The Patent Examining Fax Center new telecopier numbers are (703) 305-3599 for all After Finals and 703-305-5408 for all others. Use of the new Crystal Plaza 3 center will facilitate rapid delivery of materials to the group. The faxing of all papers must conform with the notice published in the Official Gazette, 1096 O.G. 30 (November 15, 1989).

New! Applicants who wish to send a facsimile (draft copies) for the examiner's immediate review can now do so by using the Examiner Dixon's personal fax number at 703-872-9514. **NOTE: All facsimiles sent to the examiner's personal fax number should be in draft-forms and will be treated as informal.**

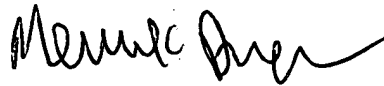
Same facsimiles will not be entered in the related applications unless otherwise noted by the examiner.

Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose number is (703)308-0661.

Art Unit: 1774

20

Any questions concerning the instant communication should be directed to Examiner Dixon, at 703-308-0013, Mondays to Thursdays, between 12 noon and 8 PM, eastern time .

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Merrick Dixon", with a stylized, flowing script.

Merrick Dixon

Primary Examiner

Group 1700